FREE HOLOGRAM KEYRING WITH THIS COPY!

# ROBOT WARS MAGAZINE

£1-50 ISSUE 5
AUG-SEP 2000
BBC

CE

J-D Images Ltd, London N21 2EA. Not suitable for children under 36 months due to small parts.

IF YOUR FREE KEYRING IS MISSING, PLEASE SPEAK TO YOUR NEWSAGENT. SORRY THIS GIFT MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE OVERSEAS.

## REFBOT REVEALED

first pics of new house bot

## JULES RULES!

new presenter interviewed

here comes trouble...

# SIR K!

## BEHEMOTH'S BACK

run for your life!

# ROBOT WARS

ISSUE 05 / AUG-SEP 2000

## WHAT'S IN RWM THIS MONTH?

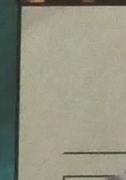

04 nuclear-powered **shunt** action
06 the **killalot** files are open
10 **behemoth** let rip!
12 get your **robot mayhem** tickets! the **a-z of robots** continues
14 **sgt bash** fired up and on your wall
17 win **barking mad** prizes
18 meet the **new presenter**
20 shunt's cartoon is **out of control**
22 it's the **chaos v hypno** clash
24 the official **top 32** robots rw's **web wiz** answers your questions
26 time to **get verbal!**
28 loadsa pics of **philippa**


**RWM@BBC.CO.UK**


EDITOR Mike Collier
ART EDITOR Simon Oliver
SUB-EDITOR/WRITER David Hayles
DESIGNER Steve Dobson
PICTURE RESEARCHER Emma Peel
EDITORIAL ASSISTANT Kelly Austin
ADVERTISING Theresa Davies 020 8433 3288
MARKETING EXECUTIVE Marion Slaughter 020 8433 2790
MARKETING MANAGER Helen Nothard
MARKETING ASSISTANT Tessa Gemmel 020 8433 2998
PRODUCTION Morag Gillett, Jo Beattie, Sarah Hovell
CIRCULATION MANAGER Simon Young
ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER Alfie Lewis
PUBLISHER Lindsaye Fox
EDITOR, BOYS' MAGAZINES Jason Loborik
EDITORIAL DIRECTOR, FAMILY GROUP Nicky Smith
DIRECTOR, FAMILY GROUP (UK REGION) Gillian Laskier
MANAGING DIRECTOR, BBC WORLDWIDE (UK REGION) Peter Teague

COMPETITION ENQUIRIES 0208 433 2998

CONTRIBUTORS Sarah Armstrong-Prior, Jacques Gauthier, John Ross, Alan Craddock, Adam Clark, Bill Robbins, Davey Moore
PHOTOGRAPHY Chris Capstick, Sharron Price, Richard Open, Mike Collier, David Hayles
THANKS Chris Reynolds and Visual Effects crew, Behemoth Boys, Julia Reed, Adam Clark
Robot Wars is a trademark of Robot Wars, LLC. The Robot Wars television series is produced by TV21, a division of Mentorn Barraclough Carey Productions Ltd, in association with Robot Wars, LLC for BBC Television. Matilda, Dead Metal, Sgt Bash, Sir Killalot and Shunt are designs and trademarks of the BBC and used under licence. Magazine © BBC Worldwide Ltd 2000. Robot Wars Magazine is published every month by BBC Magazines, a division of BBC Worldwide Publishing, BBC Worldwide Ltd (Woodlands, 80 Wood Lane, London W12 0TT). Colour origination by Pace Colour, Southampton. Printing by Polestar Magazines (Colchester) Ltd. A member of the British Printing Company Ltd. UK subscription rate: £18.00 for 12 issues, Europe/Eire £26.00 for 12 issues, rest of world £36.00 for 12 issues. **SUBSCRIPTION ENQUIRIES: Call (01795) 414716 or write to BBC ROBOT WARS MAGAZINE Subscriptions, PO Box 279, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME9 8DF.** This magazine can be recycled for use in newspapers or packaging – please dispose of it at your local wastepaper collection point. Robot Wars Magazine text is printed on 70gsm Valsatap, produced in Germany by Haindl. It is elemental chlorine-free and coated with china clay from the UK and calcium carbonate from Europe. Cover is printed on 410gsm Heavy Art, produced in Austria by Sappi Leykam. It is chlorine-free and coated with china clay from UK and calcium carbonate from Europe. BBC Magazines is working to ensure that all its paper is produced without the use of chlorine and is sourced from well managed forests (along the lines laid down by the Forest Stewardship Council).



## the latest news from the pits...

### RWM EXCLUSIVE!
### NEW PRESENTER REVEALED

At long last, we can tell you the name of the brand new Robot Wars presenter, who will be taking over from Philippa Forrester in Series IV. Her name is Julia Reed and she looks like this...
But if you want to find out more about Julia and what makes her tick, you'd better turn to page 18 for her first ever interview!

## ...and from around the world...



### NUTS AND BOULTER

Last issue, when we featured RW superstar Ozzy Boulter of 'The Witch' fame, we forgot to mention that he's organising The Robot Country Fayre, a robot extranaganza, on Saturday 30th Sept, at Southfields School, Kettering, Northants. So far, Plunderbird and 101 have agreed to appear, with more expected soon. For more details, call Ozzy on 07967 879711. It promises to be great fun, with a chance to see the robots up close and meet genuine roboteers.

### SIR KLEANALOT

Dyson, who invented the famous 'bagless' vacuum cleaner, have now made a robotic vacuum cleaner. The Dual Cyclone robot whizzes around the front room sucking up dirt on its own – while you sit with your feet up. It looks a bit neat and tidy to be a house robot, but perhaps the bot could be used to clean up the RW arena after fights!

Pics: Steve Tate (Toaster), Team Executioner, Logistix, Dyson

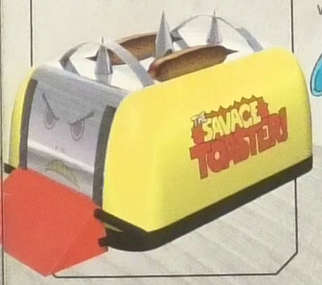
## SAFETY WARNING!

DO NOT ATTEMPT TO BUILD OR OPERATE A ROBOT WITHOUT FIRST JOINING THE RW CLUB AND GETTING THEIR SAFETY GUIDELINES. SEE PAGE 12 FOR DETAILS OF HOW TO JOIN!

## robot report

### BREAD OR DEAD

Rumours are rife about which will be the new robots to look out for in Series IV. Everyone has their old favourites, but it's always exciting to see a new bot lined up and ready. The ones to look out for at the moment include Anthrax, Xno, Executioner (pictured above) and the brilliant-looking Savage Toaster, which might also improve the RW canteen!




### HOUSE CLEANING

As you read this, the all new house robot, Refbot, will be rolling off the production line. Refbot will operate in the arena, monitoring the fights, as well as clearing dead bots off the arena floor and putting out fires with his extinguisher arm. He talks, too, to explain his decisions!

The other house robots have undergone the following upgrades for the new series:

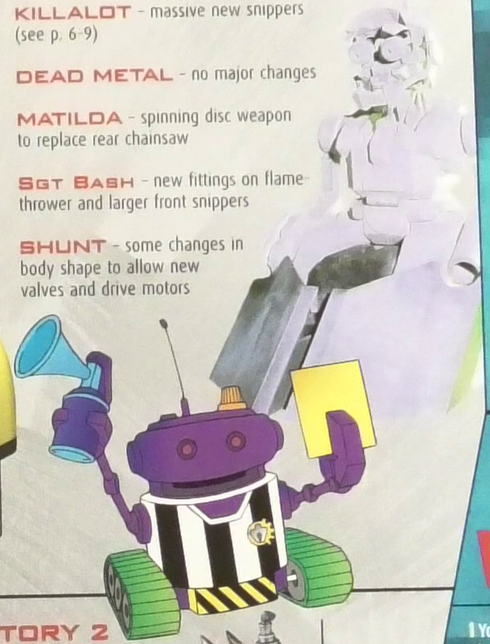
**KILLALOT** – massive new snippers (see p. 6-9)

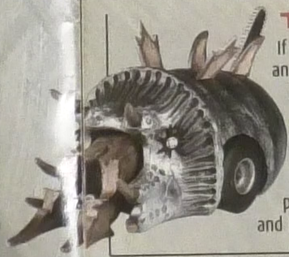
**DEAD METAL** – no major changes

**MATILDA** – spinning disc weapon to replace rear chainsaw

**SGT BASH** – new fittings on flame-thrower and larger front snippers

**SHUNT** – some changes in body shape to allow new valves and drive motors





### TOY STORY 2

If you think these are nice pics of Shunt and Matilda, you'd only be half right. They are actually the house robot models we told you about in RWM #3 and will be on view at the Robot Mayhem event (see page 12). But what about Craig and Phillipa dolls?

### FULL METAL WHACK IT

The latest cool game to hit the streets is Metal Fatigue for the PC (£29.99). Why do we like it? Well, it features great big fighting robots called 'combots' marching around and mashing everything in sight, which sounds like quite a good idea for a TV show...

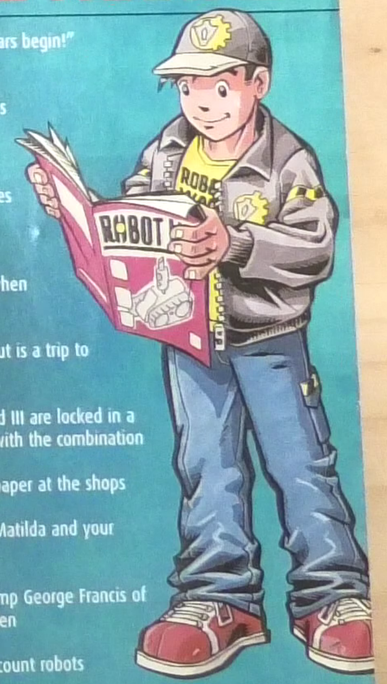
## ACTION STATIONS!

Phew! We only just managed to finish this issue in time. Everything in the RWM offices has been going barmy as we get ready to cover the next Wars. By the time you read this, we'll be camped out in the studios getting all the news and pics from the Fourth Wars – the new teams, old favourites, presenters, audience – you name 'em, we'll get 'em!

Because of the filming, please remember that Issue 6 of RWM won't be out until 27 September, but it'll be a real cracker, complete with a free Series IV wallchart to follow every metal-mangling moment! Oh, and if you spot any of us at Robot Mayhem or the filming, make sure you say hello!

THE EDITOR

## 10 WAYS TO SPOT IF YOU ARE A ROBOT WARS FANATIC




1 You say "Let the wars begin!" when you wake up

2 Your favourite food is pancakes – 'cos you can flip them

3 You do the Craig Charles sign-off every time you say goodbye

4 You shout "ACTIVATE!" when starting the car

5 Your idea of a good day out is a trip to the local scrapyard

6 Your tapes of series I, II, and III are locked in a safe and you're the only one with the combination

7 You keep asking for RW wallpaper at the shops

8 You call your vacuum cleaner Matilda and your washing machine Shunt

9 There's a statue of Series III champ George Francis of the Chaos 2 team in the front garden

10 When trying to get to sleep you count robots

# THE ORIGIN OF SHUNT PART ONE

VERKHOYANSK NUCLEAR POWER PLANT, SIBERIA. NEW YEAR'S EVE, 1989.

INSIDE, THE NIGHT SHIFT IS CELEBRATING.

23:59

CHEERS!

RAZUMIKHIN IS NO LONGER RESPONDING.

LOSING SOUND

...AND VISION.

OH MY...

WHAT IS THAT?

IT'S AS IF RAZUMIKHIN AND RASKOLNIKOV HAVE... *MELDED* WITH EACH OTHER.

DEEP INSIDE THE PLANT, THE WATER-COOLED REACTOR IS RUNNING DANGEROUSLY HOT.

KRAKKK!

SSSSSSS

NERP! NERP! NERP!

THERE IS TROUBLE INSIDE THE CORE!

SEND IN REPAIR ROBOTS RAZUMIKHIN AND RASKOLNIKOV

NERP! NERP! NERP!

1 2 3

FSSSHHH

SOMETHING'S GOING ON IN THERE.

SEND IN FIRE CONTROL ROBOT NEVA.

WHACK!

FSSSHHH

NEVA IS IN PLACE AND REPORTING.

AND NOW IT'S FUSING WITH THE CORE!

SKRUNCH!!!

IT'S BEYOND OUR CONTROL. WE NEED EXPERT HELP.

IF THAT THING ISN'T STOPPED, IT MIGHT TURN THIS POWER PLANT INTO SOME SORT OF DOOMSDAY WEAPON.

A CHAIN REACTION THAT COULD THREATEN THE WORLD!

Illustration: John Ross · Colour: Alan Craddock · Script: Davey Moore

it's time to get to grips with sir k, the most feared of the house robots

# DRILLER KILLA

## SPECIFICATIONS

NAME SIR KILLALOT
SPEED 8 KM/H
WEIGHT 290 KG
LENGTH 140 CM
WIDTH 115 CM
HEIGHT 130 CM
POWER
PETROL ENGINE WITH HYDRAULIC POWER PACKS. DRIVE RUNS ON 24V SYSTEM
WEAPONRY
HYDRAULIC LANCE AND CUTTERS
METHOD OF ATTACK
SPIKE ROBOT, LIFT AND SPIN IT, OR SNIP WITH CUTTERS

### RED EYES

These were added to make Killalot look more aggressive, and perhaps suggest an alien life-form lurking beneath the armour

### ARMOUR

Early designs used replica medieval armour moulded into shape, until it was decided to design an alien-crossed-with-knight-in-armour suit

### DRILL

Used to spike contestant bots, the drill is extremely powerful and could drill through a railway sleeper – but not with its current motor which needs upgrading

### TATTOO

The fish on Killalot's left arm was drawn on by Colin Tilley, Sir K's operator. Colin has a similar fish tattoo on his left arm

### SHOULDER PADS

To protect arm joints, these were lost for Series III, but have since been re-installed for Series IV with protective horns attached

### CUTTERS

Changed from small hydraulic snippers which cut through robots, to much larger snippers that will crush and lift any robot Sir K gets in his grip

### BODY PAINT

A metallic blue was chosen to contrast with the other house robots. It gives Sir K the 'knight in shining armour' look

### PROTECTIVE MESH

One of the few areas Killalot suffered damage to in Series III, when Razer got its jaws worryingly close to wiring

### CATERPILLAR TRACKS

Taken from a powerbarrow (a heavy-duty wheelbarrow used on construction sites), these spread the massive weight of the robot and keep it from toppling over when it lifts another robot – usually

# > who's behind SIR KILLALOT?

COLIN TILLEY

>What's it like to drive?
>The most difficult thing is just lining up anything to spike – usually the fight is happening on the other side of the arena, and the other robot's moving as well. So when they stop, that's when we like to get in there and have a go.

>How do people react to seeing Killalot?
>When we first wheeled him out people said, "Oh no, we're going to get seriously trashed." And some of them did in Series II. I got hate mail from a roboteer whose robot I demolished.

"He's just a big LUMP!"

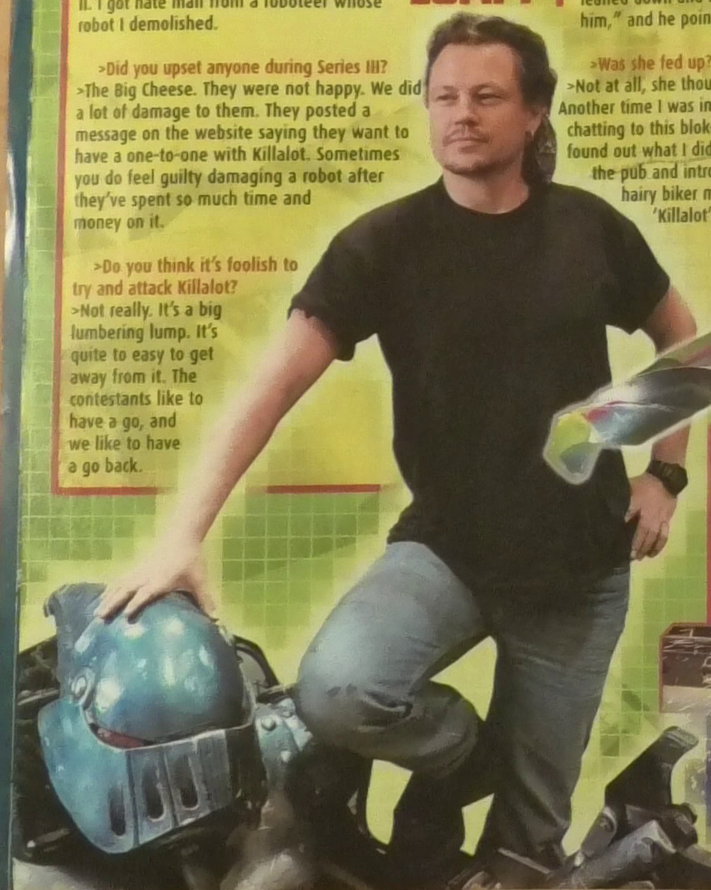
>Did you upset anyone during Series III?
>The Big Cheese. They were not happy. We did a lot of damage to them. They posted a message on the website saying they want to have a one-to-one with Killalot. Sometimes you do feel guilty damaging a robot after they've spent so much time and money on it.

>Do you think it's foolish to try and attack Killalot?
>Not really. It's a big lumbering lump. It's quite to easy to get away from it. The contestants like to have a go, and we like to have a go back.

>How do tracks compare to wheels?
>The tracks are very sticky on the arena floor. We cheat a bit – we put washing up liquid on them. That's why there are so many lines all over the arena. Once the arena gets slippery, it lets us move more easily. It also means we can spin on the spot.

>Do you get recognised at all?
>I was at the filming, chatting to Philippa, when this kid came up and said "I want your autograph." Philippa leaned down and he said, "Not you, him," and he pointed to me!

>Was she fed up?
>Not at all, she thought it was hilarious. Another time I was in this pub and got chatting to this bloke and when he found out what I did, he took me round the pub and introduced me to all his hairy biker mates as 'Killalot'!



# > origin of KILLALOT

After the first series, some people had said the four house robots looked more like tanks than what most people thought of as robots. Chris Reynolds set out to build a robot that did look like a robot.
"I thought it would be useful to make a really big one," says Chris, "and to be able to push debris and lift other robots. To do that it'd have to be a lot bigger. And because the cutting arm needed such a big power-pack inside, it was always going to be a monster."

# > how to beat SIR K?

Contestant robots should note that Sir K has quite a lot of exposed wiring and parts that the Visual Effects Unit didn't have a chance to cover up. As we saw in Series III, if you could get Bash to use his flamethrower near Sir K, he can catch fire.

The only other weakness seen so far is Killalot's balance. In Series II he toppled over while lifting a heavy contestant. That might not be very helpful though, 'cos by the time Sir K gets his claws on you, you're usually finished anyway!

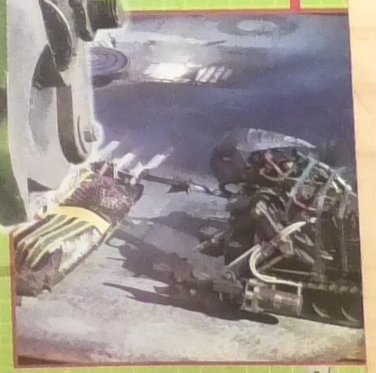


# KILLA CLASSICS

■ During the Series III semi-finals, Killalot picked up Pitbull and spun it round on the end of its lance. "Cease!" was called because the programme makers were frightened the mutt was going to come off the end of the spike and fly out of the arena.

■ Operator Colin Tilley accidentally reversed Sir K into the pit in the second series, while trying to attack Mortis. He unfortunately 'attacked' in the wrong direction, and it took 8 people to get the bot out of the pit.

■ Also in Series III, Killa's petrol tank split and caught fire. Luckily, the technicians were able to put out the fire and repair him in time for the next bout.



rwm's david hayles proudly presents

20 TONNES OF ROLLING THUNDER THAT NO-ONE COULD STOP!

# ATTACK OF THE SOFT ROBOT

**behemoth** [noun] an enormous creature or thing. From the Egyptian p-ehe-mau, water-ox

A quiet suburban street on the outskirts of Hemel Hempstead is not all it seems. Running the length of the side of one of the houses is a cluttered workshop, its shelves creaking with piles of tools, coils of wire, gaskets, screws, car parts and hunks of metal. This is the nerve centre for Team Behemoth.

## MASSIVE ATTACK

Building robots is more than a hobby to Team Behemoth. Members of the team spend six or seven hours at a time in the workshop fine-tuning their creation. As the workshop threatens to overrun the Pritchard house, so Behemoth gets bigger and better with each series.

"When we entered the first series," says Jon, "we built it 'television size' – how big the robots looked on TV. It was only when we got there that we realised the robots were much bigger." There are plans to enter the original small bot, Baby B, in a different weight class. "Our next robot was as wide as the first one was long," says Kane.

## GOING LARGE

As the bot got bigger, so it had to get lighter, and the team found themselves replacing the aluminium frame with titanium (half the weight, and pretty much unbendable). "At first we had trouble getting hold of material," says Jon. "Our school used to give us stuff and let us use their equipment."

After a couple of appearances on Robot Wars, however, "We started getting a name for ourselves and people would give us things."

"We've got the widest **SCOOP**"

## PUSH AND SHOVEL

One mysterious benefactor – who goes by the name of 'The Jolly Green Giant' – supplied them with titanium off-cuts for the bot's arms, most of which got broken in Series 4. "They take three hours to make, and 30 seconds to get mangled," says Jon. Mr Jolly Green has provided the team with £6000 worth of metal, including the titanium scoop.

"It's the widest scoop in RW," Kane declares proudly. "We were the first people to think of using a flipper," Ant adds. What about Shunt? "Shunt is similar," says Kane, "but not as good." That's fighting talk.

## SCOOPER TROOPER

With new titanium arms, safety glass panelling, and plans to add a weapon, things are looking good for this nifty, nimble robot in Series IV – after getting spiked in Series III, and just losing out to Razer in the First World Championships. The boys reckon the robot could now be indestructible. So prepare for big fights, massive destruction and huge applause, Behemoth-style!

"We were the first to use a **FLIPPER**"

FEATURING

JONATHAN HENLEY

EDWARD PRITCHARD

STARRING

KANE ASTON

ANTHONY PRITCHARD

MIKE PRITCHARD

# ROBOT WARS CLUB

LONDON W1P 6TG TEL 020 7323 9435

## MAYHEM IS HERE!

Robot Mayhem, the first EVER official live Robot Wars event, is opening its doors as you read this. We know you'll want to come, so here's everything you need to know:

**WHERE?** Park Street Studios, Park Street, St Albans, Hertfordshire (junction 6 of the M1, junction 21a of the M25, or Radlett rail station)

**WHEN?** 09.30 every day from Monday, July 24th to Thursday, 3rd August 2000

**WHAT'S THERE?** At the huge Robot Mayhem complex, you'll be able to see the house robots up close (including the new REFBOT), watch roboteers at work and go crazy as hundreds of metal monsters fight to the death for a place in the next series of RW. On top of that there will be special demonstrations, exclusive merchandise and the chance to meet RW fans from all over the country.

**HOW MUCH?** Tickets are £10 for adults, £6.00 for children aged 12 and under.*

**HOW DO I GET TICKETS?** Log on to the website at **www.robotwars.co.uk** and follow the easy instructions, or ring the ticket hotline on

# 0115 912 9000

*plus booking fee of £1.50 for adults, 75p for children. There is also a charge of 95p per order to cover postage.

## JOIN US!

Fill out the form below to become a member of the Robot Wars Club and send it to the address at the top of the page. For £12.95 per year you'll get:

- REGULAR CLUB NEWSLETTER
- METALLIC ROBOT WARS BADGE
- PERSONAL MEMBERSHIP CARD
- HISTORY OF THE 3RD WARS VIDEO
- DISCOUNTS ON RW MERCHANDISE

**For Club and ticket enquiries, please do not contact Robot Wars Magazine**

I want to join the Robot Wars Club ☐ I am interested in building a robot ☐
I enclose a cheque/postal order for £12.95 made payable to Robot Wars.
Or pay by credit card (Visa or MasterCard) Please indicate your chosen method of payment: Cheque/Postal Order ☐ Credit Card ☐

Name (Mr/Mrs/Ms and initials) .....

Address .....

Postcode ..... Daytime phone number .....

Card number .....

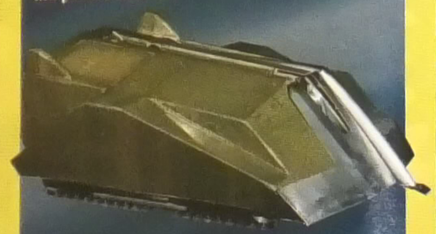
Valid from ..... Expiry date .....

Signature ..... Date .....

## a of z CONTESTANT ROBOTS

### m is for MORTIS

Mortis team member Arthur Chilcott is well known for his team spirit and pranks, but the robot isn't quite as friendly! The roboteers reckon the axe has power similar to that of a Magnum revolver. A definite audience favourite, but perhaps not in a way the team would like - there was a lot of cheering when Moris fell in the pit in Series III!



### n is for NAPALM

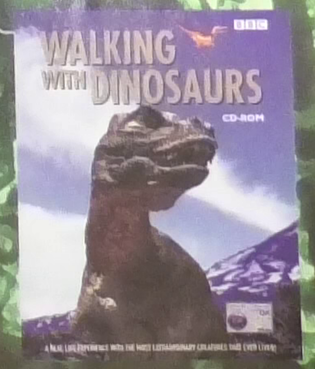
Napalm is one of the grand old teams of RW, appearing in every series so far. Won two battles in Series III but were unlucky to be in the same heat as Steg-O-Saw-Us.

### o is for OVERKILL

The 'kill' bit must have been in the warm-ups, because the team behind this great-looking robot won't be 'over' the moon about their Series III performance, winning a grand total of zero battles - a case of over and out!

# Awesome, wild, terrifying!

Now on CD-ROM.




Tyrannosaurus Rex, the Daddy of them all. Don't fear him or his relatives - walk with them. They're contained in one amazing CD-ROM - Walking with Dinosaurs. Explore panoramas, food chains, hunt for fossils, make family trees, feed on facts and use fabulous screensavers and clips from the series. A monster CD-ROM for all the family.

Available from all good software retailers including Electronics Boutique, WH Smith, PC World, Game, Toys 'R' Us, online via www.bbcshop.com and www.etoys.com or via mail order on Tel 01795 414 715.

BBC

ROBOT WARS

# SGT BASH

WEIGHT ▪ 180KG
LENGTH ▪ 140CM
WIDTH ▪ 75CM
HEIGHT ▪ 100CM
(WITH FLAMETHROWER)
SPEED ▪ 13KM/H
NAVIGATION ▪ SPECIAL
FREQUENCY RADIO CONTROL

WEAPONRY ▪
FLAMETHROWER,
CIRCULAR SAW &
FRONT SNIPPERS
METHOD OF ATTACK ▪
NIP BODYWORK WITH
CUTTING JAWS &
ENGAGE FLAMETHRO

BBC

RUN FOR YOUR LIVES, IT'S...

AS SEEN ON T.V

THE BIG KNIGHTS

AWARD WINNING

Join the Big Knights and their armour plated pets in six great adventures!

Out now on Video
at all good Retailers

The Big Knights © BBC Worldwide Limited 1999™ BBC / The Big Knights Ltd

Big Knights videos are on sale online at www.bbcshop.com

# ++COMPETITION OVERLOAD++COMPETI

## GAMEBOY!

Think your Gameboy is cool? How would you like to make it cooler?

The Joytech GBC Action Pack is the ultimate accessory for Gameboy owners. The pack includes a carry case, screen magnifier and light, a link cable to play your friends, a battery pack, charger, and adapter. That means you can take Gameboy anywhere, play in the dark, and for as long as you like! Go to the website at www.joytech.net for more details

One reader will win a Gameboy Colour (worth £80) and Action Pack. 20 runners-up will get an Action Pack (worth £20). For your chance to win, just answer the following question:

**WHAT IS THE NAME OF THE NEW ROBOT WARS PRESENTER?**

**CALL THE COMPETITION HOTLINE* ON 0901 111 0706**

## DOWN BOY!

Who's this cute little fella with the blinking eyes and floppy silver ears, making an electronic barking noise? Why it's TEKSTA, the new cyber pup from Vivid Imaginations. Teksta is an 8 week old pup who'll become your devoted friend – as long as you don't forget to play with him. You can programme Teksta, make him do tricks and talk, and tell him off when he lets off a cyber-parp!

For your chance to win one of 12 Teksta cyber-pups (worth around £50 each), just answer the following question:

**WHAT WAS THE NAME OF THE BLACK AND WHITE ROBOT IN SERIES III THAT LOOKED LIKE A DOG?**

VIVID IMAGINATIONS

**CALL THE COMPETITION HOTLINE* ON 0901 111 0702**

Or, send your competition answers on a postcard (to arrive no later than 29th September 2000) to:

**ROBOT WARS MAGAZINE COMPETITIONS, PO BOX 114, LEATHERHEAD, SURREY KT22 9DG**

**Robot Wars Magazine Competition Rules.** Robot Wars Magazine Competitions, PO Box 114, Leatherhead, Surrey KT22 9DG. RWM competitions are open to residents of the UK, EIRE and the Channel Islands, except employees of the BBC, RWM printers, Robot Wars programme makers and anyone else connected with the competitions and their families. Winners will be the first correct entries drawn after the closing date. No purchase necessary. No responsibilty can be accepted for entries lost or damaged in the post. Prizes are subject to availability. If, in circumstances beyond our control, the prize offered is unavailable, an alternative and equivalent prize will be sought. All entrants are bound by the rules. RWM will not enter into any correspondence. All winners will be notified accordingly and their names and addresses will be available on request. *Calls cost no more than 25p. Please get permission from the bill payer before ringing.

mike collier meets julia reed – the brand new face of robot wars!

# KILLA-JULES!

"My flatmates are MAKING A ROBOT"

**>What should we call you – Julia, Reedy or what?**
I'm usually 'Jules' – I won't allow any mickey-taking of my surname! Normally, I'm introduced on a show as Julia, but once I get to know everyone I become Jules.

**>So how did you get the job to replace Philippa for Series IV?**
I've done a lot of shows that are a little bit similar to Robot Wars. I did a show called Gear for the Sky Technology Channel which was all gadgets and gizmos. We had a section on it where we'd find the most extreme inventors we could who'd invented the most amazing things – sort of mad scientist type people. I did lots of extreme sports stuff as well, like snowboarding.

**>Would you say Robot Wars was 'extreme'?**
I think it is. Whenever you tell people about Robot Wars, they start off thinking it sounds a bit strange and mad. Then when you start describing the robots and what they do, it's amazing how quickly they really get into it. People like to be creative and use their imaginations and RW gives them a chance to do that. Everyone identifies with it and thinks "If I was going to build a robot, what would it be like?"

**>Is that what you like about the show?**
Yes, and the fact that it's a team thing. It's great to think that all these families and friends can get together and build a robot. Even my flatmates are thinking of designing one!

**>Which robot is your favourite?**
From the last Wars, it's got to be Hypno-Disc because it was able to cause such massive destruction. But when it got flipped in the final, I thought "I wonder if you could build something like Hypno-Disc but without the square bit on the back? You know, just a big flying saucer that would work both ways up like Invertabrat...."

**>Sounds like a good idea.**
...and one day you could give it laser propulsion or vertical take-off capability so it could hover there, waiting to strike!

**>How do you feel about taking over from Philippa? Have you had a chance to speak to her?**
No, I haven't, but I can't think of anyone who could do the job better than Philippa. It's a real honour to be able to follow her, she's so cool – and she's flippin' brainy. But I have a first-class degree in psychology from Bristol University, too!

**>That might come in handy when you're talking to roboteers who've just lost – you could give them some therapy!**
[Laughs] Y-e-e-s-s-s...

**>How do you think you'll be different?**
Philippa's very cool and confident because she's seen it before. It'll all be new to me, so I think I'll come across as a bit more energetic or 'reactive'. I'm looking forward to meeting Craig as well – he looks like a laugh and he's obviously really into the show.

"It's a real HONOUR to follow Philippa"

"You could give robots LASER PROPULSION"

**>And the third member of the presenting team, Jonathan Pearce?**
His commentary is perfect. Again, I haven't met him yet, but his style is brilliant and so funny! I love the fact that even though he's doing what's really a sports commentary, he never loses the human angle.

**>How long will filming the series take?**
A whole month. It'll be very hard, working 12 or 14 hour days – but I've done worse. But there'll definitely be a big holiday planned at the end.

**>Here's an important question. What do you think should be served in the Robot Wars canteen?**
I suppose I should say salads if I'm going to be able to fit into my leather trousers – but really I want a lot of meat!

**>Finally, do you have a message for the Robot Wars fans?**
Ooh, that's a tricky one. I suppose if I had a message it would be: "Try not to miss Philippa too much!"

"I have a degree in PSYCHOLOGY"

# THE ORIGIN OF SHUNT PART TWO

NORTH EAST SIBERIA. NEW YEAR'S DAY, 1990.

I HOPE YOU KNOW WHAT YOU ARE DOING.

WE'RE THE EXPERTS WHEN IT COMES TO ROBOTS. ALTHOUGH YOUR PROBLEM IS A LITTLE... ADVANCED.

GOOD JOB WE HAVE THIS ADVANCED RADIATION-PROOF REACTION SUIT.

IT FOLLOWS MY ACTIONS AND THEN MULTIPLIES MY STRENGTH A THOUSAND TIMES.

BE CAREFUL IN THERE ADAM. STAY IN TOUCH VIA THE COMLINK.

REMEMBER, THE SUIT IS THE ONLY PROTOTYPE WE HAVE.

I'LL DO MY BEST NOT TO SCRATCH IT, PROF!

SHTOOM

THERE IT IS. THE ROBOT SEEMS TO BE... *EVOLVING!*

I HAVE TO SEPARATE IT FROM THE CORE.

SKREEEEE

IT'S HEALING ITSELF! THE ROBOT MUST BE SELF-REPLICATING. BETTER CONSULT THE PROF.

FZZZ

*TECHNICAL ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY

THUNK!

IT'S SHUNTING ME INTO THE CORE! I'LL JUST HAVE TO BATTLE IT OUT!

SCHTOOM

IF I CAN JUST... DISENGAGE... THE NUCLEAR ROD...

GOT IT!

PHEW!

ADAM! THE SUIT!

SOME TIME LATER...

THE ROBOT GOT IT'S POWER FROM THE CORE, BUT IT'S THIS MUTATED COMPONENT THAT ENABLED IT TO SELF-REPLICATE. TODAY WE WITNESSED REAL ROBOTIC EVOLUTION!

IN THE WRONG HANDS THAT COMPONENT COULD PROVE DEADLY. IMAGINE – WAR MACHINES THAT COULD REPAIR THEMSELVES INSTANTLY.

WE MUST HIDE IT FROM THE LIKES OF GENERAL McCARTHY – BUT WHERE?

I THINK I MIGHT KNOW JUST THE PLACE.

*MIR* – PIONEERING SPACE STATION AND NOW THE WORLD'S MOST VALUABLE SAFE DEPOSIT BOX!

THE END

Illustration: John Ross · Colour: Alan Craddock · Script: Davey Moore

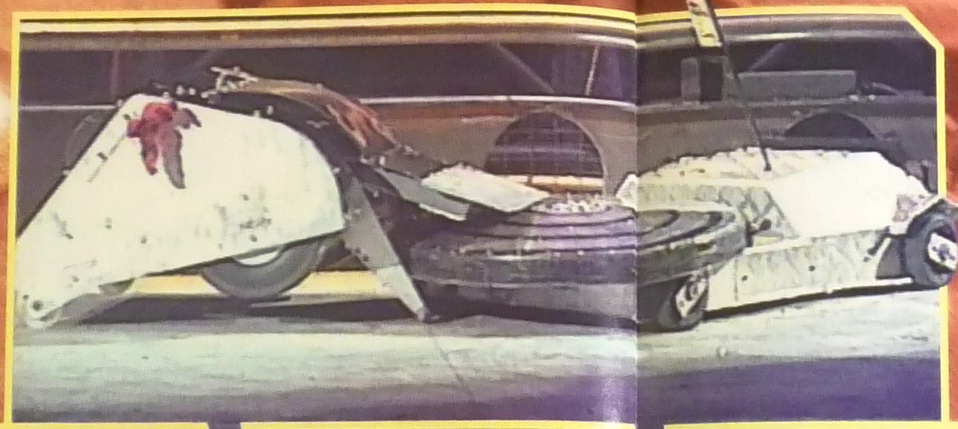
the series III grand final had everything a great fight needs... and more

# FLIPPED DISC

## CHAOS 2

**SPECS**

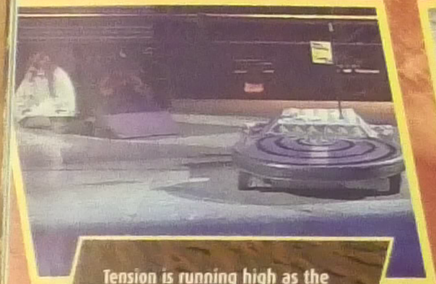
Weight ..... 77.4 kg
Dimensions ..... 0.38 x 0.92 x 0.72 m
Weapons ..... High pressure CO2 flip
Origin ..... Ipswich
Notes ..... Cost £250
Team ..... George Francis – Captain
Ian Swann, Richard Swann
Opinion ..... "Hypno-Disc has demolished so many people, he's got me worried," says George Francis



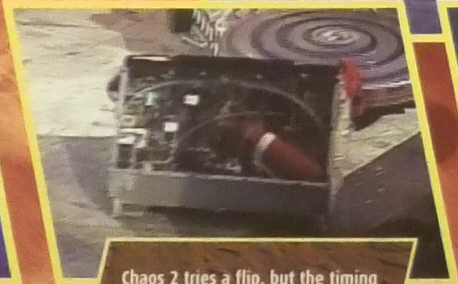
## HYPNO-DISC

**SPECS**

Weight ..... 70.3 kg
Dimensions ..... 0.25 x 1.26 x 0.74 m
Weapons ..... Rotating disc with barbs
Origin ..... Oxford
Notes ..... £800
Team ..... Dave Rose – Captain
Derek Rose, Ken Rose
Opinion ..... "The flipper's our worst nightmare," admits Dave Rose before the fight



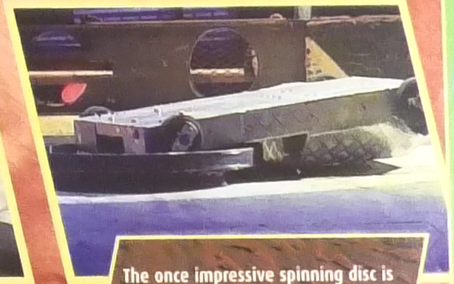
Tension is running high as the two best bots of Series III face each other across the arena floor



Chaos 2 tries a flip, but the timing is off. "Has that damaged the flipper?" asks Jonathan Pearce

Evidently not, as Chaos tries again and this time sends Hypno flying into the air and early defeat

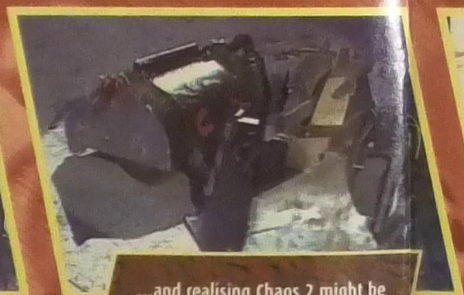
"OOOOHH – flipped up and over," cries Pearce. "The fears have proven true for the Hypno-Disc boys"



The once impressive spinning disc is now motionless, trapped underneath the upturned body of the robot

Not content with being series champ, Chaos 2 turns his attention to the house robots: Matilda is first

The tusked one is flipped onto her side. A gallant Shunt moves in to teach the contestant a lesson...



...and realising Chaos 2 might be more than a match for him, tries to get away, but not in time

"This is great fun, but the house robots will be back with revenge in their hearts," Pearce predicts...

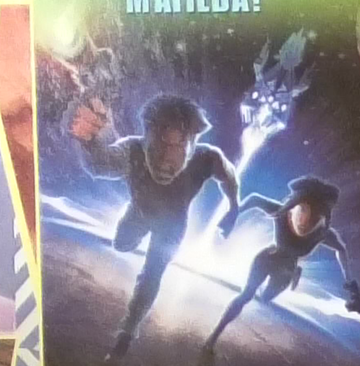
...while champions George Francis and his team observe the widespread carnage in the arena below

The Series III grand final was broadcast 21/04/00


The NO.1 MAG FOR BOYS!
ONLY 99p

OUT NOW!
WITH FREE LIGHT-UP ALIEN PEN AND CHICKEN RUN STICKERS!

NEXT ISSUE
ON SALE 9 AUGUST:
POKEMON NEWS
WWF WRESTLING
THE SIMPSONS
HOW TO DRAW MATILDA!



PLUS FREE TITAN AE STICKERS!

the official list of robots that will be waiting for the series IV qualifiers

# THE SEEDS OF DOOM!

### HOW THE SEEDINGS WERE WORKED OUT

The Robot Wars Steering Committee is a group made up of competing roboteers, the television production team who actually put the show together and the top technical experts, Mat Irvine and Derek Foxwell. They drew up this list of seeds (robots who don't have to go through the qualifying rounds) based on previous experience, performance, innovation and creativity. There are lots of old favourites and a few fresh surprises. Which ones would you want to face in your first battle?

**1 CHAOS 2** no surprise that the reigning champ is the top seed

**2 HYPNO-DISC** series III runner-up earns number 2 spot

**3 RAZER** the world champ might have expected better

**4 PANIC ATTACK** great past champ, but getting on a bit?

**5 FIRESTORM 2** well-built and a confident team

**6 BEHEMOTH** big bot, always there or thereabouts

**7 STEG 2** introducing the new, improved Steg-O-Saw-Us

**8 GEMINI** surprise package from the creators of Mace 2

**9 101** the pocket-money bot earns a big-spending ranking

**10 SPAWN OF SCUTTER** better than Scutter's Revenge?

**11 THING 2** a skilful driver lifts it in the rankings

**12 EVIL WEEVIL** great defence, but needs to be on the attack more

**13 GRAVEDIGGER** aiming to spring another surprise on its opponents

**14 BLADE'S BIG BRUVA** bigger, but better?

**15 BIG BROTHER 2** why mess with a winning formula?

**16 TRIDENT** another semi-final appearance would be fantastic

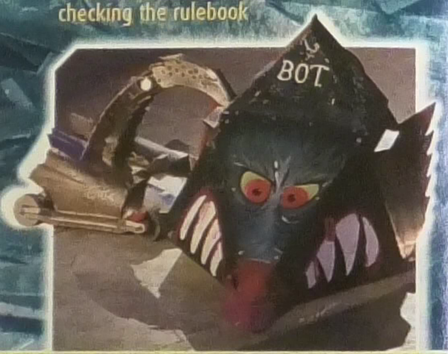
**17 WHEELY BIG CHEESE** hope to avoid an early match with Chaos

**18 KILLERHURTZ** hopefully they'll have been practising their driving

**19 KING B 3** surprisingly low ranking for the King Buxton boys and their regal bot

**20 CERBERUS** this time with a weapon, it should do well, and always looks great

**21 PUSSYCAT** they'll be checking the rulebook




**22 AGGROBOT** big and heavy but perhaps too slow

**23 DIDTOIR** if they won, the party would be wild

**24 X-TERMINATOR** decent all-rounder with good, destructive weapon

**25 MORTIS** can they finally justify the hype and cost? Or fly straight in the pit?

**26 BESERK 2** almost impossible to disable

**27 SHADOW OF NAPALM** the Napalm saga continues with a hot orange bot with a flipper fitted

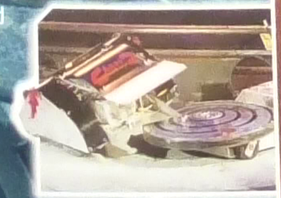
**28 PLUNDERSTORM** fingers crossed they're rapping into the final in their inimitable style

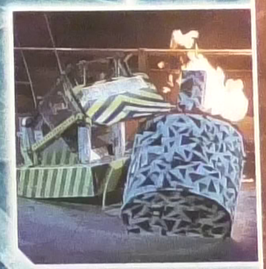
**29 SIR CHROMALOT** a match against Plunderstorm would be a must-see fight

**30 WEL-DOR** expect it to spring a few surprises

**31 DREADNOUGHT XP-1** breathe a sigh of relief at avoiding qualifying battles

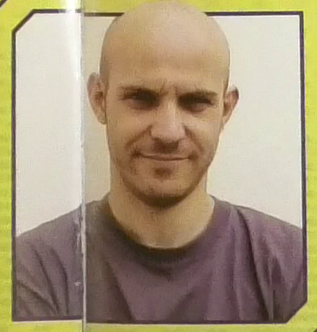
**32 STINGER** snatches a seeding by the skin of its teeth





## BRAIN SCAN

**NAME** ADAM CLARK
**DATE OF BIRTH** 23/02/63
**OCCUPATION** Web Producer in charge of RW website
**EDUCATION/EMPLOYMENT** HND in Electronic Engineering, Plessey Military, Ilford. Reuters Dealing Room Support, Fleet Street, London



**WHAT GOT YOU INTERESTED IN RW IN THE FIRST PLACE?**
Originally finding out about Robot Wars US on the internet and reading all the web sites, then discovering that there were going to be competitions in the UK.

**IF YOU COULD CHANGE ONE THING ABOUT RW, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**
A much bigger arena in an urban setting. I'd love to see the robot designs move towards all-terrain configurations and operating in a 3D setting. A larger arena would allow more to compete at once and operate in packs.

**WHAT OTHER WEBSITES DO YOU LOOK AT?**
I keep up with the US competition news on the Team Delta site and scan all the sites in the links pages regularly. Other than that I am a webmaster's worst nightmare – I normally only visit a site once.

**WHAT SORT OF PEOPLE CLICK ONTO THE RW WEBSITE?**
It's harder to imagine the type of person who *doesn't* click on the site. I receive mail from every type of person imaginable, from nearly every part of the world – Peru, Guatemala, New Zealand, Uruguay, Brunei...

**WHICH BOTS DO YOU ADMIRE THE MOST?**
Hardcore combat robots, anything without fancy paint, and a rusted look. If it's got some rust on it then it's even better.

**WILL CORPORAL PUNISHMENT BE TAKING PART IN THE NEXT WARS?**
Corporal Punishment has retired, and is being used as a sacrificial safety robot to keep the new robot Twister in line if it gets out of control during practice.

"The robots could operate **in packs!**"

**DO YOU OFTEN HAVE TO DELETE MESSAGES ON THE WEBSITE?**
Every now and then, but I try and only remove those that are rude.

**WHAT'S THE FUNNIEST THING ANYONE'S EVER POSTED ON THE SITE?**
The Robbie the Reindeer reward. Afer the BAFTA awards there was a bounty placed on his head.

**WHAT PLANS DO YOU HAVE FOR THE FUTURE?**
Building up the archives, and getting the website more involved in filming in the future. In the work shop we've started on Quadzilla, a four-legged robot.

Check out some of the robot-related websites Adam visits:
**www.dangerousmachines.com** – serious robot action, basically
**www.wlcooke.co.uk** – for precision tools online for budding roboteers


## GET WITH THE PROGRAMME!

You wouldn't dare miss an episode of the best show on TV, so why take a chance on missing out on a copy of the best magazine around? Get Robot Wars Magazine delivered every month to your door, at the special price of £16.50 for 12 issues. That's right, you get 12 issues for the price of 11, and a free gift every issue. You don't even pay extra for postage!

## SPECIAL OFFER
## 12 ISSUES FOR THE PRICE OF 11

Be sure you don't miss out! Fill in the form below (you can photocopy it if you don't want to cut up your mag) and send it to the address below by 30 August (if you want your subscription to start with issue 6). Or call our credit card hotline – details below.

Please send BBC Robot Wars Magazine to:

Reader's name _____
Address _____
_____ Postcode _____
Date of birth / /
Please send Robot Wars Magazine every month at a price of £16.50 for 12 issues. I enclose a cheque for £16.50 made payable to Robot Wars Magazine. Or pay by credit card (Visa, MasterCard or Access) or by debit card (Switch, Delta or Connect)
Please indicate your chosen method of payment:
Cheque ☐ Credit card ☐ Debit card ☐
Cheque/Card holder's
Name (Mr/Mrs/Ms and initials) _____
Address _____
_____ Postcode _____
Card number ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐
Valid from ☐☐☐☐ Expiry date ☐☐☐☐ Switch issue number ☐
Signature _____ Date _____

Completed forms should be sent to: BBC Robot Wars Subscriptions, PO Box 279, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME9 8DF. Europe/Ireland rate: £26.00 for 12 issues. Rest of world rate: £36.80 for 12 issues.
**Or call our credit card hotline on (01795) 414716 quoting code RW05**

# STATIC

RWM@BBC.CO.UK
ROBOT WARS MAGAZINE, ROOM A1130, BBC WORLDWIDE, 80 WOOD LANE, LONDON W12 0TT

LET'S TALK WARS!

## MAILSHOT

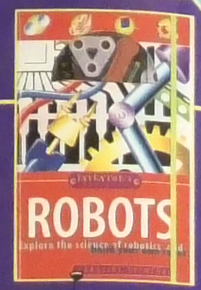
**Every letter we print receives a Robot Inventor's Handbook (worth £12.99) from Design Eye Publishing. Complete with templates, nuts and bolts, you'll be beating Sir Killalot in no time at all!**

**>> from Daniel Mulligan**
Me and my dad Steve are hoping to enter RW and have made two prototype robots. One has a front spike, and the other has a back spike.
> What are you planning to call yourselves – Team Spike?

**>> from Sarah-Ann Gough**
My 22 month old son is a great fan of Robot Wars. He watches the videos at least three times a day, and even though I am a fan, I'm getting a bit fed up of the same videos.
> Don't worry. Series IV starts soon (the last week of September if we're lucky), so you'll have a new load of fights to get fed up with.

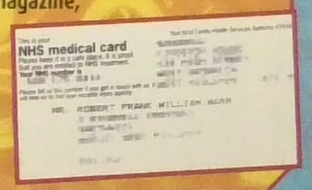
**>> from Thomas Cossey**
Why do the house robots sometimes attack the winner at the end of a fight, when they should be attacking and trashing the loser instead?
> If you've read this issue's Classic Clash you'll see why. Sometimes the winner needs to be stopped before he gets too big for his ro-boots!

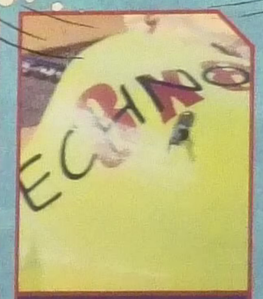
**>> from Hannah Gittoes**
In the second issue of RWM it said about Sir K on tour. If he's coming to Cornwall he would be welcome to stay for B&B or in one of our holiday cottages.
> Sir K in a bed and breakfast? It's unlikely he'd want to stay over-knight!



## NUT of the month

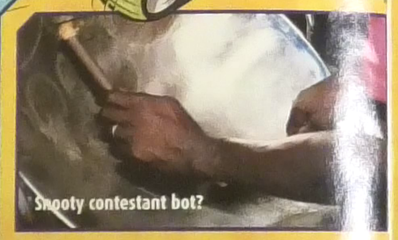
I thought you might find this funny. My name is Robert Warr and I am 11 years old. All my friends and my teacher call me Robot Wars because my name sounds the same and because I am a big fan of Robot Wars!
How cool is that? Very cool. But Robert's not our nut. Jason, editor of *FBX* magazine, didn't believe Robert's story and asked for proof – and here is. So congratulations, Jase 'cos YOU are now our nut of the month!




## BIT-O-BOT

**No need to be afraid – which hi-tech bot is this? The answer's at the 'bot' of the page!**


Snooty contestant bot?

## SYSTEM CHEC

**Read the whole mag? Then these questions should be simple [answers given below]!**

01 Who drives Sir Killalot?
02 Name the top three seeded bots.
03 Name Team Behemoth's mysterious titanium donor.
04 Where did the new presenter go to university to study?
05 Which house robot did Chaos 2 flip first in the grand final of Series III?

## THE BIG BALLOT

We ask the questions and YOU give the answers. This month, **WHICH IS THE WACKIEST ROBOT?** We had loads of different answers, and these five were the most popular.

| TUT'S REVENGE 8% | THE WITCH 12% | MILLIE-ANN BUG 8% | ROBOPIG 10% | MAX DAMAGE 4% |
|---|---|---|---|---|

NEXT MONTH Which robot has the coolest name? E-mail or post your choice to the usual Static address

## TALKING POINT: MAGIC MOMENTS!

**The greatest ever moment on Robot Wars so far? A discussion at WWW.ROBOTWARS.CO.UK tried to decide, and what a surprise, Chaos 2 features heavily...**

**>> By Thomas Holmes**
I liked when Cassius got flipped over, and it used its arm to jump back onto its wheels! That was even better than when it flipped Matilda!

**>> By Pete S**
I liked it when Chaos 2 trashed Shunt. I also liked when Mortis smashed Napalm's armour.

**>> By Jon Howdle**
I liked seeing TBC flip Sgt Bash. It was funny when Panic Attack bust his saw too. I'm not a great Sgt Bash fan.

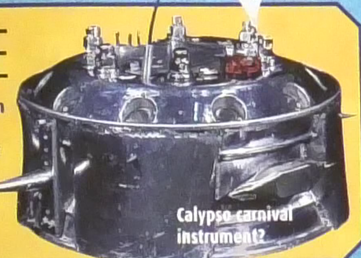
**>> By Mike Robert**
The best moment ever would be when Chaos 2 flipped Firestorm out of the arena.

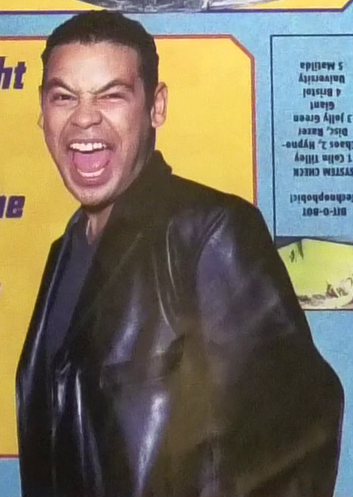
**>> By Toaster**
The end of the Hypno-Disc v Robogeddon fight was dead funny.

**>> By Victor**
The best fight was in series 2, when Killertron beat Orac and flame-broiled it.

## ROBOLIKE

**The Sir Chromalot team reckon they're great musicians – remember them playing their air guitars in the arena? Well, maybe they'd be better off using Sir C as a steel drum!**


Calypso carnival instrument?



***"A dog might howl and a lion might roar, but the noise is much more frightening on Robot Wars!"***

BIT-O-BOT
Technophobic!
SYSTEM CHECK
1 Colin Tilley
2 Chaos 2, Hypno-Disc, Razer
3 Jolly Green Giant
4 Bristol University
5 Matilda

## NEXT ISSUE

RWM WANTS YOU AT THE FOURTH WARS

FREE SERIES IV WALLCHART!

ALL THE TEAMS
ALL THE BATTLES
ALL THE ACTION

RWM ISSUE 6 ON SALE 27-09-00

ROBOT WARS MAGAZINE

# PHILIPPA FORRESTER